

Reading in a Foreign Language
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From the Editors

There have been several personnel developments recently. Dr. Cindy Brantmeier stepped down as co-editor effective September 30, 2019. She will be greatly missed. Dr. Brantmeier joined *RFL* five years ago, replacing Thom Hudson. We are very fortunate to have Dr. John Macalister take her place, effective October 1, 2019. Dr. Macalister, who is a member of the journal's Editorial Board, is a professor at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

We are very pleased to welcome Wenyi Ling and Khiet Chau to *RFL*. They joined us in August as the Co-Assistant Editor & Assistant Web Production Editor. Wenyi is a doctoral student and Khiet is in the M.A. program in the Department of Second Language Studies, University of Hawaii. They replaced Mitsuko Suzuki, who resigned in August. We wish Mitsuko well and thank her for her solid work with the journal.

This issue of *RFL* has six regular articles. In the first, TJ Boutorwick, John Macalister and Irina Elgort report on their investigation into two implementations of extensive reading and their effects on second language vocabulary development: a traditional ER-only approach, and an ER-plus approach which supplements ER with post-reading discussion carried out in small groups. Next, Ting Huang discusses the impact of visual aids on the reading comprehension of 26 university students learning Chinese as a foreign language.

In the third article, Brandon Kramer and Stuart McLean present the results of their two studies showing how the number of characters influences foreign language reading time, independent of word counts, within classroom-based activities for Japanese university students. Jia-Ying Lee, in the fourth article, discusses the effects of instruction in test-taking strategy of Taiwanese undergraduates in English as a foreign language reading classes.

The focus of the fifth article, by Hitoshi Mikami, is reading anxiety scales. In the final article, Caleb Prichard and Andrew Atkins report on their investigation in the attention of second language readers in task-based reading online.

In the Discussion section, there are five pieces. Meredith Stephens writes about Natsuki Aka's article that appeared in the April 2019 issue. Aka responds to Stephens. In the third discussion piece, Jeff McQuillan comments on John Macalister and Stuart Webb's article from the April 2019 issue. Webb and Macalister respond to McQuillan. In the final discussion piece, Macalister offers an additional response to McQuillan.

This issue concludes with the valuable October feature, Readings on L2 reading: Publications in other venues 2018–2019, edited by Shenika Harris, Tim Cavnar, and Haley Dolosic.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the National Foreign Language Resource Center (NFLRC) at the University of Hawai'i for its invaluable support. NFLRC's continued funding allows us to offer *RFL* without charge.

We make our semi-annual request that those readers of *RFL* who have not yet subscribed to become subscribers at no cost. Subscribers have the option of being notified through e-mail as soon as each new issue is released. We keep all subscriber information confidential. We ask you to subscribe because it will assist us in continuing to obtain institutional support for the journal, keeping it free of charge. So, please take a few moments to fill out the brief [subscription form](#) for *Reading in a Foreign Language*.

RFL, like all scholarly journals, depends on the support of individuals with expertise in various areas of second and foreign language reading. The critical and insightful observations and suggestions of the external reviewers allow the journal to maintain the high quality of the articles. The number of manuscripts that we receive for consideration steadily increases each year. As a result, we need more and more external reviewers. If any readers of *RFL* would like to be external reviewers, please contact us with the areas of second and foreign language reading in which you have particular expertise.

We would like to have your feedback to the articles; please feel free to contact us with your reactions, comments, and suggestions.

We would like to express our thanks to the external reviewers who have provided insightful comments on manuscripts. These scholars make invaluable contributions to *RFL*. The following external reviewers took time to do critical evaluations through mid-September 2019: Lisbeth Brevik, Dale Brown, Andrew Cohen, Cheryl Ernst, Shenika Harris, Dong-Kwon Kong, Anna Siyanova-Chanturia, Richard Spiby, Mitsue Tabata-Sandom, Junko Yamashita, Dolly Young, and Aiping Zhao.

Finally, we must extend our thanks and gratitude to these copy editors: Lin Chen, Bonnie Fox, Greg Gagnon, Reginald Gentry, Jennifer Holdway, Jacob Kletzien, Michelle Kunkel, Victoria Lee, Yu-Han Lin, Aki Omote, Joseph Ritch, Chau Truong, Kristen Urada, Jing Wu, Jim Yoshioka, and Jing Zhong.